* The Articles of Confederation had no provision for a national court or a national judiciary.
* - Individual states settled disputes between persons who lived in
* different states – if at all
* - Often decision by the courts in one state were ignored by courts in
* other states.
* Alexander Hamilton, in his *The Federalist No. 22*, argued for a national court system.
* In Article III, Section 1 of the Constitution Congress was given the power to create a Supreme Court and inferior courts.
* **A Dual Court System**
* In the U.S. we have two separate court systems.
* 1) A national judiciary with over 100 courts
* 2) 50 state court systems
* - number in the thousands
* - they hear most of the court cases
* Two kinds of federal courts:
* - Constitution created the Supreme Court and Congress crated the
* inferior courts – those lower federal courts beneath the Supreme
* Court.
* - Congress has created 2 distinct types of federal courts:
* 1) the Constitutional courts
* - those courts established under Article III to exercise the
* judicial power of the U.S.
* - with the Supreme Court, they include courts of appeals,
* district courts, and the U.S. Court of International Trade.
* - Also called regular courts or Article III courts
* 2) the special courts
* - do not exercise broad “judicial power of the U.S.
* - created to hear cases arising out of some of the
* expressed powers given to Congress.
* - also called legislative courts or Article I courts
* - they include: U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed
* Forces, the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims,
* the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the U.S. Tax Court,
* various territorial courts, and the courts of the District
* of Columbia.
* **Federal Court Jurisdiction**
* Constitution gives federal courts jurisdiction over only certain cases.
* *-*  Article III, Section 2 provides that the federal courts may hear
* cases either because:
* 1) the subject matter
* 2) the parties involved in the cases
* **Homework – Focus Questions:**
* Read ch. 18, section 1, pages 520-526, and do the following focus questions.
* 1. What is the subject matter in which a case may be heard in federal
* court?
* 2. What parties can be involved to give the federal courts jurisdiction?
* 3. Explain **concurrent jurisdiction.**
* 4. Define: **plaintiff, defendant, original jurisdiction, appellate**
* **jurisdiction.**
* 5. What cases do appellate courts hear? What actions may they take?
* 6. Explain the procedure for selecting federal judges.
* 7. Define the following terms: **judicial restraint, precedent, judicial**
* **activism.**
* 8. Explain the length of term for judges as defined in the Constitution.
* 9. Why did the framers choose this length of term?
* 10. What is the process for removing a judge from office?
* 11. What is the term for judges who sit in special courts?
* 12. What is the age of retirement for federal judges?
* 13. Explain the position of a magistrate.
* 14. What is the job of a U.S. Attorney in federal judicial districts? Term?
* 15. What is the job of a U.S. Marshal? Term?